



JC19 Rec'd PCT/PTO 31 MAY 2001

PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Francois Jacobus ROSSOUW

Serial No. 09/831,026

Application Branch

Filed May 4, 2001

FLUID APPLICATOR ENGAGEMENT DEVICE

#6/B
PL 8-25-01

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to the first Official Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims 1-24.

Add the following new claims:

--25. (new) A paint applicator which includes:
a support which is buoyant and which, in use, floats
on a surface of paint in a container,
at least one opening in the support, and
projections on the support which are engageable with
a roller which is moved over the support thereby to cause
rotation of the roller as a surface of the roller is charged
with paint through the said at least one opening.

--26. (new) An applicator according to claim 25,
wherein the support includes a ring which defines the said at
least one opening and flexible arms to which the ring is

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